

NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING OPEN HOUSES AND
CORRIDOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED RELOCATION OF U.S. 74
FROM U.S. 129 IN ROBBINSVILLE TO N.C. 28 IN STECOAH

TIP Project No. A-0009 B & C

Graham County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold pre-hearing open houses and a corridor public hearing regarding the proposed relocation of U.S. 74 from U.S. 129 in Robbinsville to N.C. 28 in Stecoah at the following times and places:

- **Tuesday, October 27: Pre-Hearing Open House - 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.**
The Ramsey Center - Hospitality Room at Western Carolina University, 1601 Ramsey Center, Cullowhee
- **Wednesday, October 28: Pre-Hearing Open House - 3 p.m. to 7p.m.**
Stecoah Valley Center, 121 Schoolhouse Road, Stecoah
- **Thursday, October 29: Pre-Hearing Open House - 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
Graham County Community Building, 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville

Department of Transportation representatives will be available in an informal setting to answer questions and receive comments relative to the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions also will be provided. Citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours on the days indicated above.

The formal public hearing will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2009 in the Graham County Community Building auditorium. The formal presentation that begins at 7p.m. will consist of an explanation of the proposed corridor alternatives, design, right of way and relocation requirements/procedures. The hearing will be open for statements, questions and/or comments.

Anyone wishing to speak at the public hearing may register at the pre-hearing workshops or immediately prior to the formal hearing. Speakers will be called in the order they signed up. Citizens will have five minutes to speak in order to allow an opportunity for everyone who wishes to speak. Additional spoken comments will be received after those who registered have finished their comments.

NCDOT proposes to construct a new four-lane divided U.S. 74 The B & C segments of the U.S. 74 Relocation (A-9 ABCD) project represent the middle portion of the project that runs from U.S. 19/74/129 in Andrews to Wattia Road (State Road 1121) in Almond. The proposed highway will be about 9.9 miles in length and will require additional right-of-way acquisition and the purchase of homes and businesses. There are two alternative corridor locations under consideration.

Maps showing the proposed locations and designs of the project, as well as a copy of the approved environmental document - Draft Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement - are available for public review at the NCDOT Division 14 Office, 253 Webster Road, Sylva; the NCDOT Resident Engineer's Office, 191 Robbinsville Road – Suite A, Andrews; and at the NCDOT County Maintenance Yard, 40 State Shed Road, Robbinsville; and at the Graham County Public Library, 80 Knight St, Robbinsville. The map may also be viewed online at: <http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/US74Relocation/>

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Ed Lewis, NCDOT Human Environment Unit Head, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, by phone at

(919) 431-6585 or via e-mail at elewis@ncdot.gov. Additional material may be submitted until November 30.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in the open house and/or public hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Lewis at the contact information above as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.